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1860.

MINIATURE

OF

DANSVILLE VILLAGE:

HUMBLY INSCRIBED

TO

THE FIRST SETTLERS,

AND THEIR

IMMEDIATE DESCENDANTS.

BY J. W. CLARK.

DANSVILLE, N. Y.
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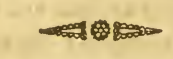
INTRODUCTION.



When we look attentively at almost any portion of the surface of the Earth, we discover evidences that considerable changes have taken place since its original formation. Unimpeachable testimony argues the mind back to that distant Past, when the fountains of the great Deep were broken up, and the windows of Heaven were opened. At almost every step, we discover Phenomina which the Deluge alone can explain.

Were it appropriate, it might be interesting to the philosophic mind, to notice some of the time-enduring marks and Monuments which the retiring waters must have produced and left behind them, as memorials of their mighty agency. An agency by which the solid crust of the Earth was dissolved, and a rocky nakedness effected on the tops and sides of ten thousand mountains, and unnumbered Pyramids reared up on the plains below.

It is more than four thousand years ago since the Bow of covenant promise was first painted on the Cloud which overshadowed the patriarch Noah on the summit of Ararat, demonstrating the change which had taken place in the con-

attution of the atmosphere, rendering it much more dense, and consequently much less pure and elastic. Our Marshes, Fens and stagnant waters which minister so materially to disease and mortality are evidently the Dregs of the Flood whose drainings could not become entire. These truths argue a sickly atmosphere and bespeak an early grave.

The site of this village and its immediate vicinity seems to have been a natural Basin which must have retained the water a considerable time: the mounds and hills of sand which are so peculiar to our southern border must have been thrown up by the undefined whirl and commotion of these waters, as they retired in sublime and awful majesty.

How long a period transpired before the first Indian Arrow glanced along these streams—before the first Tomahawk gleamed upon these mountains none can tell. How long a period transpired after the Red Man first desecrated the soil of these premises with animal blood before preparations were made for agricultural pursuits is equally difficult of solution. These centuries have bequeathed us no records, but have rolled silently away.

Individual places like individual persons have claims upon historians; among these, some are more distinguished and require a broader page.

The advantages and facilities of this place when estimated by calculating, business minds must be looked upon as a kind of public property, altho' but few may perceive the fact. This consideration has urged these imperfect sketches which may be censured for their defects, or feebleness, but the author consoles himself with the belief that no one will pretend that the picture is overwrought with the labor of the brush. It is an extraordinary individual whose face presents more than one prominent feature. In meeting with one of this class, we meet many plain unmeaning faces.

Artists complain of the abscence of prominence in the originals which they are trying to copy. They feel most sensibly the want of some strong point, or lineament by which to identify the picture: something that will relieve from that smoothe monotony and vacancy which can never fix the eye. But when a plurality of highly marked features occupy the same face and hold it out to view, these being sketched, a less skilful hand may fill up the remainder.

If the public mind shall find it difficult to discover the original of these sketches, it will not be, that our village possesses no strong points, but on account of the feebleness of the artist who may not have been able to reach those very strong points and lineaments which stand out to beholders so prominently. There are many things which embarrass a writer who attempts the history of any particular place. He must depend upon such dates and facts as the few remaining first settlers give him, and on such incidents as they relate. Under such circumstances an honest intention to exhibit things as they were must be the amount of his responsibility. The humble drudge is exposed to censure without the hope of praise—to be disgraced by miscarriage, or punished for neglect, where success would have been without applause and diligence without reward. The unavoidable course to which a writer is sometimes constrained by circumstances over which he has no control, exposed to accusations of a most unenviable character, and may award him a partiality for some certain class. But as the author has no high claims, upon the public, and expects little, or no reward for his humble services, he only hopes that sober minded men will do justice to his intentions.

If these feeble efforts shall add any thing to this City in miniature; if they awaken any enterprise, or invite one Capitalist, the author will not have toiled and endured in vain.

ERRATA.

Page 10, for light, read tight.
" 17, " Bishop of Pay, read, Bishop of Puy.
" 19, " cerrian, read, certain.
" " " all do, " all we do.
" 22, " drown, " drawn.
" 30, " this all, " all this.
" 30, " contracted, read contrasted.
" 31, " highest, " high.
" 32, " northeast, " northwest.
" 33, " disposed, " dispised.
" 38, " Lockage, " Leakage.
" " " Leakage, " Lockage,
" " " Lockage, " Leakage.
" 39, " boards and shingles, read boards and scantling.

ERRATA.

Page 10, for light, read right.
" 17, " Bishop of Puy, read, Bishop of Puy.
" 19, " certine, read, certain.
" " " all ce, " all we do.
" 25, " down, " drawn.
" 30, " this all, " all this.
" 30, " construed, read construed.
" 31, " lighest, " bigh.
" 34, " northwest, " northwest.
" 33, " directed, " disposed.
" 34, " Lockage, " Locklage.
" " " Lockage, " Lockage.
" " " Lockage, " Leakage.
" 39, " boards and shingles, read boards and
sealing.

MINIATURE OF DANSVILLE VILLAGE.

When a neighborhood has advanced from a wilderness state to that of comfortable improvement, the contrast must be very impressive to such as remain of the first settlers. The hardships and incidents attending these settlers must be very interesting to their immediate descendants. But as the incidents which are common to one family of first settlers are common to most of them, a very few need be mentioned. A studious enumeration of these casualties is as tiresome to sensible readers, as tautology is disgusting.

There could have been but little difference in the time that several families came into this place. There were some individuals, probably, within the town sooner than the first settlement was made in this immediate neighborhood, but as this part of the Canaseraga Valley is to be the subject of these pages, we commence with Messrs. Hammond and McCoy, who seem to have cut the first bushes and felled the first trees. It is not on account of any preference that one of these families is first introduced upon this page. Amariah Hammond and James McCurdy, Esqrs., who now reside in this village, on the same premises where they first settled, came here in 1795. Mr. Hammond

relates that during his first visit to this place, he slept two nights under a pine tree on premises which he afterwards purchased.

I put a bell on my horse, said he, that he might not stray beyond hearing, but it was unnecessary, as the horse came as often as every hour to where he lay and disturbed his sleep; the horse seemed sensible of his lonely situation, and fearful in view of it. Our informant says when the Sun rose over the hill, especially the first morning, the whole valley and surrounding scenery looked enchantingly lovely: straw-berries covered the ground as he had never seen them, even in gardens; he could not step without destroying more or less of them. He, during that season built him a house, &c.; the next April he removed his young family from Bath to this place: his wife and infant child on horse-back, his house-hold goods and farming utensils on a sled drawn by four oxen, and a hired man who drove the cattle. They staid the first night near, what is now called Blood's Corners, the second near the inlet of Conesus Lake, and on the third at sun-set, at his new residence. After some refreshment he said he must return to meet the man with the cattle, to which his wife could not be reconciled, and who can wonder. He found the man and cattle seven miles distant, he had ceased trying to advance, and wolves were on his track; when they arrived at home in the morning, they found that Mrs. Hammond had not been in bed during the night. The exquisite mental anguish which she suffered during those long and fearful hours no one can estimate.

This valley had been the favourite abode of the Indians, they had at this time an extensive burying ground near, or a little west of where L. Bradner, Esq., now resides, on main Street, and the Monument of a deceased Indian Chief, where Mr. Picket resides.

They were entirely friendly, they were here to hunt and occasionally held their dances here, but their chief residence was at what is now called Mt. Morris. Deer were abundant in, and especially around this valley: they were taken by the Indians in great numbers. Some time in this year, a Grist and Sawmill were erected and put in operation by Sir C. Williamson and Capt. D. P. Faulkner, nearly where Mr. Opp's Mill now stands Capt. Faulkner had purchased 6,000 acres of land here and brought on ten or fifteen families.

This Sir Charles Williamson came up the Susquehannah, cut a passage for his boats up the Tioga river, and came to Bath as early as 1793 or 4. He was land agent to the Pultney Estate. Mr. Hammond says, when business called him to Bath, he slept one night under some bushy Hemlock tree, going and also returning; as the journey could not be performed in one day.

When his first grass needed cutting, he had to go to Tioga Point to get Scythes: he went there, purchased two which with his travelling expenses cost him eleven dollars. It was common during the early settlement of this place, for the men to take provision with them and go into the woods to cut roads a week at a time, encamping on the ground at night.

Canandaigua, and soon Geneseo were points where

some few articles could be obtained for a families' comfort. Capt. Faulkner brought the first goods to this place from Albany by sleighing, by the contraction of whose name and the addition of the word "ville," this place was named "Dan's–ville," and also the township in which it then was. He seems to have been a worthy, enterprising gentleman, and having identified his name with the village and with the township on the south, his memory will be honored to the latest posterity. For more than fifteen years, says Mr. Hammond, there were no Rats in the place. It was stated at one time that there were one, or two in a box containing some fruit trees which were brought here: the people came together and put the box in a light room and found two rats and killed them. Long after this, the first settlers will tell you that they came here in droves, and every barn seemed to receive them at the same time. It is supposed that they came from Canandaigua. If they had been received from there on the same terms that sheep are let out to double in three, or four years, and strict justice should be observed in returning what might be found due our Ontario friends, they certainly would be rich in that kind of live stock, if value attached to them.

There were many here as early as 1797, but the family of Mr. McCoy were here a little before Mr. Hammond's. After introducing this family into this valley we shall desire the reader to understand that there were some families in the town of Sparta previous to either Mr. McCoy, or Mr. Hammond and that near this place, Mr. McCartney had settled with some oth-

ers. Mr. McCoy came from Painted Post, he was the step father of Mr. James McCurdy of this village.—They staid the first night at Bath, the second they encamped in the woods, near what is now Liberty Corners, the third they encamped in the woods near the inlet of Conesus Lake, the fourth at Mr. Havens in the north part of this town, and the fifth arrived in this place. Mr. McCurdy says there was a small hut for a surveyor where C. Welch now resides on Ossian street.

At this time there was no white inhabitant in what is now the town of Dansville. On the south none nearer than Arkport. There was a Mr. Gregory and Duncan a little north at this time. During the first winters they needed no hay as the cattle preferred rushes which were abundant along the Canaseraga, which gave it the name of Rushbottom.

Of these rushes, Mr. McCurdy says. the cattle were extremely fond, they grew as much in one winter, he says, as in two summers: horses did well on them in the winter but not in the spring. There was no Grist-mill nearer than the outlet of Conesus Lake, and at one time Mr. McCoy not being able to get the corn ground which he had bought of the Indians, the family had only potatoes for three days. This family and others purchased meat of the Indians, at a settled price, the rate of exchange with this family was settled by Mrs. McCoy, Mr. McCurdy's mother. The price of a good hind quarter of venison was, two pumpions, six turnips, or two quarts of Indian meal. This was so perfectly understood, and so satisfactory to both parties that

there was no demurring; the Indian threw down his venison and took his pumpions or turnips without speaking and all was right. This currency Mr. McCurdy says was a lawful tender through the valley.

Mrs. McCoy seems to have been admirably qualified to originate a currency and establish the rate of exchange in an emergency like that of the first settlers: indeed she seems to have been highly qualified to counsel and advise in any trouble or emergency.

She possessed a very strong mind of a peculiar cast which enabled her to originate expedients where ordinary minds entirely failed. She could have led an army in advance, or retreat, where Generals have failed whose names have come down to us.

It is true, it must sometimes cost more time and trouble to kill a deer than at some others, but it also costs more to grow pumpions and turnips some years than it did others which balanced exactly. If sometimes some smaller denomination of this currency was called for than an entire pumpion or turnip, who does not perceive that a pumpion could be cut into parts, and that a turnip sliced into small pieces, for every purpose of change. This currency was independant of the general government, nor did they attempt tinkering it to death, it was beyond their reach. It was equally beyond the reach of any president of veto memory.—Congress might debate, or quarrel, the president might exercise the veto power on bills which he himself had originated; little did Mrs. McCoy heed them, or the red man regard them.

Rattlesnakes, says Mr. McCurdy, were so plenty,

that we killed from four to six daily. Whippoorwills were also abundant; he says that these snakes and birds delight in the same soils, and the same timber. He thinks that neither rattlesnakes nor whippoorwills, will live on soils which are unfriendly to winter wheat.—His brother purchased a farm in the town of Burns, but finding none of these snakes nor birds, he told his brother James, he would not stay where rattlesnakes and whippoorwills would not live, and sold accordingly. It would not be in accordance with our sentiments to believe these creatures qualified to select habitations for our land speculators, yet we may well suppose that one of these creatures would not live forty or fifty years in vain. During that period they may have lectured the rising generations to the profit of thousands. In 1797, there was a horse race here or near by; got up by Mr Williamson. Gentlemen and horses were here from Virginia, and if the gathering was not as when Xerxes set out to invade Greece, there was enough to see that the horses actually run. The venerable Hugh McNair who was employed by Mr. Williamson to survey the Pultney lands, says that Mr. Williamson got up many horse races to get people from a distance that he might sell them land, and that more or less of the number that came to these races, expended all their cash and could not get home. These staid and many of them became settlers. Mr McCurdy also informs us, that when their plough-shares became dull, they sharpened them upon a large stone, like a grind stone, as there was no black-smith in the county. Patent ploughs have since then dissmissed

those old fashioned instruments; a patent which if taken in the entire extent of its usefulness, stands, perhaps at the head of all recent improvements.

I conclude these remarks of Mr. McCurdy by giving the public a letter directed to me on the subject of the first settling of this place. I give it in Mr. McCurdy's own graphic style; it tells the whole story in a few words and in his own straight-forward way.

Mr. McCURDY'S LETTER.

"The first events which took place in this town and in the second year after our family came to this town—and the first that ever was in town known by man.

"The first Summer we or the most of the family had the fever and ague, but in the fall of the first summer my step-father, McCoy and myself made out to chop logs enough to build a log cabin 18 feet by 14 which we thought a very large house; the next thing was in our opinion the hardest part of all about our log cabin, that was to get it raised. But we found no trouble in that, as we gave notice of our raising-day and some came from Geneseo. Big-tree then, and Indians from Mt. Morris. Allen's Hill then, of the name of Jamison, the old white woman's sons and other Indians. Some came from Post Town and some from Bath. I yet remember two of the gentlemen's names that came from Past Town and Bath; the one from Post Town was of the name of John Stag and the one from Bath, was of the name of Capt. Bull: for us boys said that we expected a great fight when the Bull and Stag would meet.

"But to return to the raising. We had hands enough and more than we wanted, for the hands came mostly the day before and we got our building up and shingled in one day with bass-wood bark which we had prepared in the summer.

"The first grist-mill was built near or on the same spot where Mr. Opp's mill now stands. The first saw-mill was built on the same ground where the saw-mill now stands a small distance above Messrs. Bradleys' paper mill. The first tavern was kept by Samuel Faulkner. The first tanner and currier was Israel Vandeventer; the first black-smith, was James Porter.

"The first marriage, was William McCartney to Mary McCurdy; the first school we had was taught by Thomas Maclain. the first established preacher and founder of a church among us, was the Rev. Andrew Gray; the first justice of the peace, was Dr. James Faulkner, uncle to our James Faulkner now among us. The first supervisor, was Amariah Hammond; the first town clerk was Lazarus Hammond, the first death, was Capt. Nathaniel Porter; the first constable was Henry Cruger. The first Post Master was Jared Irwin. the first goods was owned by Capt D. P. Faulkner, fetched from Albany. The first military captain was D. P. Faulkner, who formed a company of Grenadiers, made application to the Governor and got the equipments sent from, or by order of him to the Capt., and so beautiful a company I never seen since.

"My Mother was never much of a visitor, but one of her visits I yet remember; on the second, or next Summer after we came to this town, we heard that there was a family that had come and settled near the Big Marsh, eleven miles from us, on the Canisteo path, as there were no roads then; Mother told McCoy that she must go and visit them, Judge Hulburt: she said it was her place to make the first visit; so McCoy agreed to it on condition she would return in time to milk in the evening; so she agreed to that, and she chose me for her companion, and the next day off we put—got there by eleven o'clock, took dinner by one, and as we had not much time to spare, we had a hearty shake hands and put for home, which we did in good time for milking."

I give this from the original because it sets things in so clear a light, and compresses so much upon a single

page. It gives more facts and incidents of first settlers, than the author ever read in the same compass, and in a way that does honor to the writer.

Mr. McCurdy, altho' one of the wealthiest men, and the father of a very respectable family, is not ashamed to tell the world about the first house which they built, and how they shingled it—he is not ashamed of that economy and industry by which he has advanced himself and family to wealth and to the first rank in society. He is not ashamed of the honorable means which he has successfully employed to set his promising family in a position to do honor to him and themselves and to the place of their birth.

Dr. Franklin tells us that when himself and wife commenced house-keeping, they had scarcely any furniture; he says he eat milk in a pewter dish with a pewter spoon to save his little means that he might get along in his business. Little men never tell such stories. There is a class of men who if they prosper, they become dizzy and haughty; another class of men who the higher they are raised either by wealth, or office, the more simple and dignified they appear.—the difference between these two classes is, as the difference between the thinest Gas and solid Gold.

Many interesting things might be said of the other first settlers, such as Gregory, Duncan, Havens, the McCartneys McNairs, Fullertons, &c., but it can hardly be expected; and seems unnecessary to say more than that most of these respectable families suffered the same privations; and such of them as have died have left respectable representatives in their descendants.

Mr. Perine came here in 1797 and being a revolutionary soldier, must not be omitted. He is quite aged and has suffered the partial loss of his memory; but the scenes of the revolution are yetvivid in his mind: he will not admit that our army was ever beaten, or that the Cavalry of the Pennsylvania Line, to which he was attached, ever retreated. He describes with much military feeling the mere "frolic" of cutting up the enemy, both men and horses, when they could get near enough to teach them the "Sword exercise."—Mr. Perine was a soldier of those patriotic times and contributed his full share of noble daring in many a hard fought battle.

We associate with this gallant soldier, the name of the patriotic and venerable Van Campen* of our village, whose prowess in defending his country and in dealing a righteous retribution to his merciless Captors, would have decorated his person with the "order of military merit," in the days of the celebrated "Bayard," or denominated him, "the flower of chivalry," when the warlike Bishop of Pay rode in advance of the crusading armies of Europe,

Considerable additions had been made to the settlement by 1800. Merchandise came up the Susquehannah, into the Tioga and Cohocton and then into the Canisteo to Arkport, in the returning Arks which carried wheat.

Baltimore in Maryland, and Montreal in Canada, were the market places.

L. Bradner Esq. who has transacted so much busi-

*See Life of Van Campen.

ness in this village and the surrounding country. came here during the late war; he considered it very favorably located for market, being so near the navigable waters of the Canisteo; he says he went to Arkport, rode his horse into the water and measured its depth. What astonishing changes have taken place; then the wheat was carried to Arkport and stored until high water in the Spring, and then carried in Arks down these several streams into the Chesapeake Bay and found a market in Baltimore.

In 1808 the late, and much lamented Col. Rochester made a purchase here, he built and put into operation the paper mill which is now owned by our present senator; this gave some impulse to business. This excellant man and gallant officer of the revolution, the friend of Washington, and correspondent of Jefferson and Madison, has since then identified his name with one of the finest cities in the world, of which he was one of the honored founders; yet honorable as these may be, they lose, when compared with the enduring monuments of christian benevolence which he has reared up wherever he has resided. He gave the public, the burying ground in this village.

This purchase, Col. Rochester sold to that talented and pious clergyman of the Lutheran church, Mr. Endress, in company with Mr. Jacob Opp, Mr. Opp was quite an accession to this place; he put machinery in operation and employed laborers to the advantage of the neighbourhood.

Dr. James Faulkner came here from Bath. in 1813 and contributed his share in multiplying the business

and developing the importance of the location. The surrounding towns had greatly increased their population and consequently the farming interests.

It is truly pleasing to hear the few remaining first settlers speak of the good feelings which prevailed during those primitive times, and lament the apparent want of brotherly kindness at the present period.—They tell us, that when an emigrant family arrived, they all went to work to build them a house, expecting no reward. They would prepare the materials, build the house, and put the family into it the same day.—They speak of feelings peculiar to those times, before that calculating spirit which obtains upon the mind as places become older, had turned the heart from its duties. Before the reign of that cold arithmetic of dollars and cents, of purchases and sales, of a cerrain per centage on all that do or say. It is peculiarly lamentable that these same individuals who partook so largely of these generous feelings, became changed as circumstances and places change, and their own bosoms become invaded by that close and calculating arithmetic which schools entire communities. These men will tell you that their enjoyments are less than when canals and railroads were things unknown—as unreal as their fleeting dreams; when after their days work was accomplished, they obtained the knowledge of the pasture grounds of their only cow, by the sound of her distant bell—when some warm milk served the family for supper, and all retired to rest, grateful for so many rich, and undeserved mercies Yet there is more difference in the circumstances under which men are plac-

ed, and in the inducements which surroud them, than there is in their hearts. Where there is but litle temptation there will be less vice t han where circumstances and inducements continually urge into sin. This seems to be the great difference between such as first settle in a new country and such as live after them.

There is such a thing, as vitiated taste, when applied to society, and it frequently exists, and governs in respectable families, but this, altho' undeserving as it is, differs widely from those morbid hungerings whose cravings can only be ministered to by European imitations and Parisian contortions of dress.

During the late war there was an accession of business men to this place; there had been several stores of goods and something transacted in that way; but it was the late Joshua Shepard who more fully anticipated the wants of the surrounding country.

Mr. Shepard was a methodic straight-forward business man, who counseled his customers soundly regarding their purchases: they still speak of him with much respect and defference. Mr. Shepard as a business man, and as an honest merchant had few equals: he deserved his property.

It is among the sober truths which regard this village, that it has been crowded to take every step it has yet taken by the surrounding country. If this is saying little of the enterprise of our villagers, it certainly speaks well of their caution and prudence.— While in some places by overdoing and by anticipation serious embarrassments have been experienced, this village has escaped such disasters.

The manufacturing of leather was commenced early in this place, and has been found a safe and profitable business.

There are places possessing fewer advantages than this, that have created their own business for a time, but it has been found, that to do so safely, the location must possess many favoring facilities.

The city of N. York has become what it is by its commercial position, and other advantages, which has given its custom house an amazing revenue.

This revenue has not been obtained by the creation of business within the city, but by the wants of such as have sought her harbor. That city has been urged and crowded onward by merchant ships from every kingdom of Europe, and by the commercial wants of all these states: while some other cities have built themselves, must experience a decrease of population and of the rent of their tenements, and satisfy themselves with second hand or commission business. Therefore, comparing small with greater, much greater things, we find the example for safety and growth to partake of that which has been peculiar to this little village.

If this village occupies a comparative elevation, it is that the country has forced it up; the credit cannot in justice be set to any other account.

It was during the late war that L. Bradner Esq. commenced business here, and others soon assisted in satisfying the demands upon the place.

The writer is not informed of the express year that S. W. Smith came here but it is well known that he has been for some years one of our principal mer-

chants, and has done a very respectable business.—Since the late war this village has been a favorite resort for purchasers

This has been a farming, rather than a manufacturing place Our chief merchants have been found among our heaviest farmers; they have divided their time between the duties of the counting room, and their flocks of sheep, their meadows, and their wheat fields. Our manufacturers and mechanics have taken the same course, which argues that things are nearly right in the store, the factory and the shop. This has not only given confidence in the soundness of the place, but it has kept down that contemptible aristocracy of feelings which has drown a line around villages like this, and counted all profane beyond it. Then there has been much talent displayed in sorting into 1, 2. 3. and fourth classes of privileged gentry.

This poor little mimic thing has then acted the ludicrous sublime, in aping and mocking most awkwardly. These accomplished and most courtly gentry would faint at once if brought in contact with the good old fashioned folks of "Communipau," or the sterling habits of "Sleepy Hollow."

It was not far from this time that the Messrs. Braytons and other respectable families made their settlement in the town of Dansville between whom and this place there has been so much mutual dependence.

Store-keeping can never be found profitable very near any considerable place, especially if such place is on any navigable water. So many things combine their influence in centering the surrounding country up-

on such a spot, that business men will commence their business ,where business is. The purchases made here in merchandise for twenty years past would amount to a very heavy sum: yet the amount for the next twenty years must throw that sum entirely into the shade; even in these times there are heavy sales, and these are rapedly increasing.

In 1822, the inhabitants of this quarter section, petitioned to be set off from the town of Dansville, County of Steuben. and set onto Sparta, County of Livingston, which opened a field for some tact and and diplomacy.

The petitioners assigned as their reason, the extreme difficulties in the way of getting to Bath. and their business general y led them in the opposite direction, that the road was comparatively good to Geneseo, and that their business obliged them to go there and in that direction frequently. This petition was objected to by their southern neighbors, in as much as they did not like to see the importance of their town lessened, nor did they desire to lose a village which they called their own. We may well suppose that there was less of state tact and court diplomacy than sometimes takes place in the city of Washington or at the courts of St. James and St. Cloud, and probably less of excitement than Ireland and England are experiencing in O'Connell's repeal of the union; yet there seems to have been sufficient to call forth considerable talent. The legislature however heard and answered the prayer of the petition, and this three miles square was set onto Sparta in the county of Livingston.

Some of the inhabitants of the town of Dansville,

have suggested shrewder reasons for this separation than was contained in said petition. They will tell you, with much "Sang froid," that having become able to outvote their friends in this section, and having a candidate too popular for their taste, that dispairing of governing as heretofore, they drew off into Sparta.

The probability is that there was a sort of national feeling peculiar to both parties, as many of the inhabitants here, were from Pennsylvania, while there, they were many of them from Hartford, Washington Co. which may help to account for some little unlikeness and feeling. However all this may be, the separation did take place for reasons either within, or without the record of the petition, as any man may see for himself, without the opinion of any sound constitutional Lawyer.

These suggestions are not posted up here to mortify these proud and newly made Spartans and Livingstonians, nor for any mischievous reasons, but simply to administer a little to the humility of this three miles square, and to set things in their proper attitude for future historians. It has been this faithfulness in recording which has brought down to us the facts of former ages and the actions of heroes; and this transaction may find a place in some abler work than this. Before dismissing this interesting subject it seems necessary to say, that losing the court end of their town must have humbled our southern neighbors sufficiently.

In 1823, a case was argued in the Court of Errors which had been carried there from the Court of Chancery, which seemed to hazzard in some measure the

title of our settlers to their lands. These lands had been purchased of the Pultney estate, as the facts set forth below will show more clearly

"*SARAH WILSON and others APELLANTS*
AGAINST
ROBERT TROUP and others RESPONDENTS.

William Wilson the father of the appellants, late of Northumberland Pennsylvania, deceased, held an interest in a contract with Charles Williamson for 6,000 *acres of land in Steuben and Ontario Counties, which Williamson was to convey for the consideration of* £775 *N. York currency, Oct* 6, 1796, *Wilson gave a power of Attorney to Daniel Faulkner to receive conveyance with warranty, and execute bonds and mortgages to Williamson, and do and perform all things necessary to secure the purchase money. Oct.* 21*st*, 1796, *Faulkner rec'd. the deed and executed the bond and mortgages accordingly.— This mortgage included a special power to the mortgagee to sell the land and cause the money due on default of the mortgager to pay according to contract or bond.— The mortgage, but not the power to Faulkner, was registered in the Clerks office of Steuben Co. Oct.* 27*th*, 1796.

Williamson assigned the mortgage to Sir Wm. Pultney, who died intestate in 1805, *leaving Henrietta Laura Pultney Countess of Bath (wife of Sir John Pultney) his only child and heir at law. She died in July* 1808, *intestate, as to her real estate, which descended to Sir John Lowther Johnstone her son and heir at law.*

On the death of Sir William Pultney, the respondent Robert Troup took out letters of administration on his estate. From 1806, *to* 1811, *the respondent as agent successive of Sir William Pultney and Johnstone, sold and conveyed parcels of the mortgaged premises to eleven other appellants. Notwithstanding these sales, Troup, as administrator of Sir Wm. Pultney Oct.* 16*th*, 1810, *advertised the mortgaged premises for sale under the power in the mortgage, and in April* 1811, *sold them to*

Samuel S. Haight, the highest bidder, at $350, who bought at the request of Troup, and the same day conveyed the premises for a nominal sum to Johnstone and his wife. Haight was an attorney and under the direction of Troup aided in conducting the foreclosure He was examined as a witness below, to impeach the proceedings, and one question was, whether he was admissible. The power of sale was proved by a subscribing witness, before a master in Chancery of this State, but who went into Pennsylvania to take the proof,

Nov. 20th, 1809 and registered Dec 13th, 1809. This error was not discovered till after the sale, when on the 8th of June 1812, the power was regularly proved, and on the 11th of June duly recorded. William Wilson died intestate, in 1813 and the appellants, his heirs at law.— Since the sale at auction in 1811, Troup, as agent of the Pultney estate had gone on selling different parcels of the mortgaged premises, till on the 29th Sept 1820, the appellants filed their bill to redeem, and for an account.

The bill also charged unfairness and fraud in conducting the sale under the power. The facts being upon the question with the additional facts which it is deemed material to notice are sufficiently stated in the opinion of the Judges and by the Chancellor in giving the reasons of his decree, which was, to dismiss the bill without costs."

The court decided unanimously, that the decree of his Honor the Chancellor, be confirmed with costs. [Cowen's Reports 2nd Vol. page 195.]

This suit, the reader will perceive was sufficient to greatly alarm the settlers, as a decision in favor of the appellants would have injured them extremely.

Having purchased of the Pultney estate, they could only have recovered the consideration money which they had paid, which in many instances was very little, while they had made large and expensive improve-

ments. These settlers appointed A. Hammond Esq. their agent, to go to Albany and offer such assistance as he could; and unquestionably they made an appropriate selection. Mr. Hammond obtained the services of our Ex-President Van Buren, then only Martin Van Buren, Esq.

The attorneys on both sides were of the first order of talents which were taxed to the utmost during three days. The simple, easy and imposing way in which Mr Van Buren stated the facts of the case, and the numerous authors which he quoted in proof of his position, the force and clearness of his reasoning does him much honor. His astonishing tact in managing this suit, must give evidence to all, that his intellect is of the highest order. These are perhaps, some of the few specimens of that indescribable something about the man, which has given him so much success, as a Politician. The old settlers may well be attached to him for what he accomplished for them.

Most of those who were then personally interested in this suit, are now in a world of spirits, and live only in their very respectable descendants.

Mr. McCurdy speaking of the kindness of those times remarked, "that if any were sick, all of us were troubled, if any one died, we all wept," and then noticed the death of Mrs. Hammond, who he said "had endeared herself to them by all her virtues. When she died, all wept who had hearts and eyes."

There is no doubt but the first settlers had their vices, and sometimes exhibited sufficient evidence of strong depravity, as well as others, but as the remain-

ing few speak with much affection and in terms of high respect, it certainly becomes us to tread as lightly as they do. upon the ashes of all the dead.

In 1825, the inhabitants of this valley united with those of the Genesee valley, in a petition to the legislature, for a canal from Rochester to Olean, with a branch to this place.

There were large quantities of surplus produce which required a ready market; the article of lumber was an important one: timber was abundant on the south, and in some places there seemed little else to be disposed of. Considerable quantities of lumber have been rafted down the Canisteo and putting into several streams, had reached the Chesapeake. But it was found that however well seasoned, it became water soaked and otherwise injured, sometimes by those unavoidable misfortunes under which heavy losses have been sustained. The want of a cheaper and safer transportation was extremely embarrassing.

As much had been done for other sections of this state, we claimed this from the legislature, as our legitimate due.

Some attempts had been made to obtain a canal, in previous years, but now our hopes were strong; but railroads had become the order of the day, and after some time a grant was obtained for a railroad from Rochester to this place. The stock was subscribed, yet after the usual excitement, there, here and on the proposed route, it shared in the destiny of hundreds of cities and villages of the far west, of which nothing was ever seen but the lands on which they were intended to stand.

It is truly astonishing that the entire population of the country should have been seized alike with a speculating mania; all were to become rich without labor, purchases in what was considered favorite places was to heap wealth upon every speculator. The amazing rise of lands in consequence of this excitement was beyond all rational estimates; hence the severity of the reaction. When men who had thought themselves wealthy were stripped of their imaginary capital and their real estate began to receive a fair valuation and no more; when the fog and haze had left the atmosphere and the sky, when the old fashioned arithmetic come again into use by which men estimated the value of what an acre of land would produce in the market, after deducting the costs and interest on the land, it was like defrauding a man out of his property, or like cheating him out of his real estate. As a vast amount of property was thus swept away so unceremoniously, we charged the government with destroying the country and reducing us to very unpleasant circumstances. It was truly piteous to see many costly Palaces, Cities, villages and all that imposing livery in which all things glittered so courtly and so aristocratic, swept, as the baseless fabric of a vision, leaving but the mere wreck behind.

During those times of creating capital by calling one dollar, ten, the states in their legislative capacity became phrensied with the prevailing epidemic, and attempted things beyond the reach of all ordinary means; as if a kind of omnipotence had been conferred upon them. Such is the embarrassment of some of the

states in consequence of this unsound legislation, that their choicest lands are scarcely worth having, as the direct tax which is only equal to the interest on their debt, renders them almost valueless. Add to this all our present standing "*on change*" in all the great monied establishments of Europe and the picture is sufficiently mortifying.

In 1835, the petition was again addressed to the legislature for the Genesee valley canal and a branch to this place. During this session Judge Carroll was an active member of the legislature in its favor, and Judge Faulkner was the efficient agent from this place. Much is due these Gentlemen for their perseverance, talents and tact in the face of that strong array in the House and out of it which contracted with them at all points—The bill at last passed by very handsome majorities, and in 1837, this branch was located.

The commissioners were Jonas Earle, Jr. David Baker and John Bowman. Whatever dissatisfaction may have existed in the minds of any on account of the location, it is certain that no water power in this village was disturbed and only 83 feet to be overcome by eight locks; but we refer all who are interested in this location to the oaths of office under which these commissioners acted.

The making of this canal gave an impulse to business in this place, by the employment which it demanded and by the materials which it required to make and complete the mechanical structures.

There were many buildings put up at the time of commencing the canal, as the pressure of the times had not yet been felt severely.

It is among the unanticipated things which are taking place, that the building of houses continues, and some excellent buildings are yet going up. Notwithstanding the great number which has been built within the last four years, for a place so small as this, it is common to hear the inquiry, for some house or room to accommodate a family. Building Lots are sought for, and fair prices paid for these accommodations.

It is believed that soon our population will be double the present number.

Were a description of this valley and immediate vicinity attempted, perhaps it would be done as accurately by saying, it is not very unlike some vast amphitheatre in its appearance. That part of the valley which is intended to be described, is about five or six miles north and south, and one and a half east and west, with an apparent level surface, surrounded by hills of considerable elevation with only such openings, or doorways as might seem sufficient for the ingress and egress of the vast multitudes which might assemble on the most pompous occasions.

The highest hill, or mountain on the east, the more gradual assent on the west to about the same altitude, the continuation of these around us on the south like some vast frame work for seats, elevated one above another to a great height for the accommodation of many thousands of spectators, from which they might discover with much distinctness the imposing spectacles on the plains below. Perhaps millions might find seats from which they might witness the sublime exhibitions which might be transacting on the extended

level surface before them. There are but three openings or gateways by which such immense multitudes could approach this valley, and these seem only sufficient for such a purpose.

The hills curve around us so almost entirely, that they leave but narrow apertures between them.

On the north, or northeast, there is a more spacious gateway as if multitudes were expected from that direction; in the southwest along the direction of the Canaseraga Creek, it is narrower, and on the southeast in the direction of Mill Creek, it is also moderate, as if fewer thousands would approach from these directions.

The streams of water at the foot of these highlands, and such as penetrate this valley and cross it, might afford sufficient quantities for both men and beasts during the session of so grand an assembly.

Had the Greeks resided near us, a more delightful place for the celebration of the Olympic games can scarcely be imagined. Here they might have found ample room and natural accommodations when these games exerted the strongest influence among the nations. A more desirable place for their chariot races can hardly be imagined.

Here, to, the Romans in their haughtiest days might have celebrated their proudest triumphs.

This valley seems thrown out from that of the Genesee for the accommodation of the surrounding country; a depot; an outpost of the city of Rochester.

The extent of the surrounding country, together with the ability and wants which it possesses, must eventually urge this village into a city. Its advantages seem

sufficient for a population of fifteen or twenty thousand inhabitants.

There is an extent of country on the south and south-west with numerous rising villages which have not been estimated correctly. The staple of some part of this country is lumber which for many years will seek transportation from this place. Altho' something has been done in preparing and transporting this valuable article, the quantities which are in preparation convince us that the work is only commenced. If we anticipate a scarcity in our immediate vicinity, the increasing demand will increase its value, and more distant forests will supply the market. If those who manufacture lumber find it a safe business at the present prices, we need not fear for that article, as prices are steadily increasing. It must continue to employ many hands for a long time to come.

Nor are these lands entirely worthless if every pinery was already removed. The Hudson river counties, with those on the line of the Erie Canal, do not make the entire territory of this state. So far as pauperism is concerned, Steuben and Allegany will show very strong claims to industry and morality; and it will not be admitted, that counties where property is most equally averaged are the most undeserving. These sections which have experienced so much legislative neglect, and have borne it with so much patience, may yet disclose a mineral wealth which may astonish such as have disposed them. These sections being so near some of the mining districts of Pennsylvania, renders this anticipation less improbable.

If you enquire of some of our principle merchants where their best customers reside, they will tell you in Steuben and Allegany.

It is one of the peculiarities of this place that a respectable business is doing during each season of the year; it is common that our roads are so crowded with teams in the winter, that they embarrass each other. Having long entertained the opinion that our southern tier of counties have suffered under a long deferred justice, will be a sufficient apology for this digression.

The preparing this artery which was to give life and vigour to our village gave some impulse to the place. but when it was completed, and received the waters of Mill Creek at its termination—when the first boat moved upon the waters which were soon to mingle with those of the lakes and rivers of this wonderful state, and find their level at last in the bosom of the Atlantic, it was certainly a period of much reflection and feeling.

There was something sublime in the idea, that streams of water so retired and unadvertised, so humble in their claims, should commingle and associate in that bay where the shipping of all nations display their flags. But when a distant, inland village was found to be nearing the great point of commercial attraction, and all the surrounding country making the same advances, and brought into close neighborhood with the line of cities on the Erie canal, and which grace the banks of the Hudson, enjoying intimate connection with that great Emporium whose wharves are wet with the waves of the Atlantic, it seemed impossible to repress

that gush of feeling which the heart pours forth in its own relief. The comparatively cheap and easy transportation of the increasing products of the country, together with the importing such articles as the country demanded, to our very doors, was both novel and interesting. The great saving to consumers, and the quantities and kind of produce which it became safe to transport upon this highway of water afforded an interesting estimate in calculating minds. Those sections of country which had been so far retired, as not to have been favored with even the twilight of a commercial sun, began now to stand out in prominent relief with the light of day upon them. Sections which had been looked upon as the shreds and patches of a cast away garment, came forward in the vigor of manhood to share in a long deferred justice.

This water communication gave a new valuation to every thing about us, by an estimate which placed us among favored communities. It called into active employ energies which were almost dormant, and multiplied the industry of a large region of country by holding out the legitimate inducements.

It searched out those distant forests which could not have hoped to participate in any favorable market.—It was said of that great man DeWitt Clinton, at the completion of the Erie Canal,

> "The smallest rill, the mightiest river
> Flow mingling with his fame forever."

When we look seriously at the natural and legislative difficulties to be overcome, and that internal improvement had ceased to be popular, there is some-

thing due the agent from this place, and as local feelings wear away that senator will be appreciated.

In 1839 a Bank was established in this village, called the "BANK OF DANSVILLE," under what is called the new banking law, or free banking; based upon State Stock and mortgages on real estate. It seems to have been the policy of the Board of Directors to make it strong, as no dividends have been declared.

The following report will show its state:

STATEMENT JANUARY 1ST, 1844.

Bonds and Mortgages,			145,591	46
Michigan Stock,			50,000	
Dis. Bills			47,622	80
Due from Banks			34,691	17
Real Estate,			784	69
Personal Estate,			2,097	60
CASH.				
Office,	22,783			
Notes of other Banks,	9,336			
Specie,	4,853	53	36,972	53
			$317,760	25

Capital Stock,	153,250	
Surplus Fund,	33,073	77
Office Notes,	91,250	
DUE COMMISSIONERS:		
Canal Fund,	5,711	24
Treas. State N. Y.,	477	32
" Banks,	44	00
INDIVIDUAL:—Depositors,	33,953	92
	$317,760	25

L. BRADNER, President.
L. C. WOODRUFF, Cashier.

It may be interesting to some to see the first estimate which was made of the rout of this branch canal, when first surveyed for the information of the legislature, in 1834 or 5. The entire cost $156,604 25.— But when it was finally located it was contracted for $375,554 89. This exceeds the first estimate, $218,950 64. This shows some part of the difficulties that lay in the way. Distance from Mt. Morris to Dansville, is 16¾ miles. At Mt. Morris dam the canal ascends by two locks 23 feet to the hill side. and there passing along the slope of the hill upon which the village is situated, it continues up the west side of the Canaseraga valley to Dansville, crossing Buck run, Cashuqua creek, Butlers run, Stoney creek, Bradner's creek and Canaseraga creek, by wooden aqueducts on stone piers. The aqueducts for passing the second mentioned streams are most important. The former has three and the latter four stretches of 25 feet each. From the end of this level to Dansville, there are eight locks, overcoming an ascent of 83 feet, Lock No. 1 is 8 feet lift; Nos. 2 and 3, 11 50-100; Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, 10 40-100. The total cost from Mt. Morris to Dansville, as reported to the legislature, was $165,388 96. Mill creek, which it receives at its termination, was estimated at 1 980 cubic feet per minute.— The Canaseraga creek which it receives near Woodsville, was estimated at 3,271 cubic feet per minute.— The amount of water needed from Mt. Morris, is estimated at 2,032 cubic feet per minute. [See Engineer's Report.] These measurements were made in October; in August they may have been less: indeed, the estimate of these waters made at another time, may differ considerably from the above. Evaporation,

filtration and lockage on the Genesee valley canal, is estimated at 106 cubic feet per minute per mile: 66 of this is lost by evaporation and filtration, and 40 by leakage at the mechanical structures. Hence, for 10 miles, the loss would be 1. 060 cubic feet per minute, which must be supplied. This estimate does not take into the account any other loss of water than such as is found to exist under favourable circumstances.

It seems to have been a question with some of the engineers who first made a survey of the premises, whether this branch canal should stop at McWhorter's mill, one mile from the village, or proceed as far as Faulkner's dam If it terminated at the dam, it was reported by the engineer, it would divert the water from the paper factory and diminish the quantity at McWhorter's grist mill, and the mills owned by John Wood & Co. Terminating at the dam, the ascent was reported at 126 feet and fifteen locks. If it terminated at McWhorter's, it lessened the distance one mile, and the expense, $30,079 73, and reduced the leakage 46 feet. On the final location there is but 83 feet to be overcome by 8 locks. It is estimated that the lockage at each end of a summit level is 500 feet cubic, per minute.

By experiments on the Chenango canal it was found that an eight feet lift leaked 382 cubic feet per minute, and one of eleven feet, 447.

There is some difference in the degrees of cold along the Erie canal, when it is observed that the temperature of Utica is occasionally 20 degrees below 0; and of Albany, from 20 to 40 degrees, and at Rochester for the corresponding time, from 20 to 40 warmer, the conclusion is irresistable, says Mr. O'Riley, that the

lakes operate as immense heaters upon the air in winter. But when we find by actual experiment that the Genesee valley canal is open for the purposes of navigation, after the Erie canal is closed, it shows that other agents combine their influence with those of the lakes to favour the canal from Rochester to this place.

On a comparison of the present with the first year of its being in operation, a strong argument is obtained in favor of an increase of shipments for many years to come. The amount of toll is not the most important item of profit which is produced to the state, but the value which a cheap and easy transportation gives to personal and other estates; together with the saving to consumers, which becomes capital created, giving so much more value to the state itself. Another important advantage arising from our internal improvements is, the bringing together and associating persons from distant and extreme places which gives them much the same habits of thinking, which strengthens our republican institutions.

It may be interesting to some to see the quantities of some of the leading articles of produce which have been shipped from this port the present season.

The following is taken from the Collectors report. This account is official as was reported by Mr. Taggart, to the Comptroller.

Boards and shingles, 5,633,460 feet, valued at $44,979—timber, 41,124 feet, valued at $2,467—shingles, 6,810,308, valued at $13,620—staves, 586,899, valued at $5,869—ashes, 819 bbls., valued at $16,380—cheese, 125,080 lbs., valued at $6,254—butter and lard, 55,875 do., valued at $4,470—wool, 95,673, do., valued at $25,702—flour, 5,103 bbls., valued at $20,412—

sundries of which paper is a principal article, 323,141 lbs, valued at $64,625.

These are the leading articles, the balance of which makes up the sum of $218,144, as valued here. This amount of produce must have sold in the city of N.Y. at more than $300,000.

The excess of toll over last year, $2,155 76—making the tolls of this year $8,383 14.

If the increase of shipments shall continue for six years to come as the present year has exceeded the past, the tolls will then amount to about $20,000 annually, even should they remain stationary after that period. Reasoning from analogy it seems clear that there must be a large increase. That the country depending on this canal is only in a state of preparation to effect heavier shipments is apparent to all. If the transportation shall do justice to the preparations which are making, the increase of tolls will very soon be double the present amount.

The lumber cannot be soon exhausted, the pine forests are numerous. Making staves for market has scarcely commenced; the price which they bear in the cities is not in proportion with the low price at which they are sold here, which must urge millions to the city markets.

The product of the dairy is becoming a heavy business and the time cannot be far distant, when ten times the present amount will be transported from this place. An extensive grazing country is connected with this canal, and why it should not produce as much as the state of Vermont, on the same territory, is not easily perceived. When it equals that cheese making state in quantity, on the same territory it will have wiped from its soil the reproach of barrenness.

Since the completion of this canal we have had a good wheat market in this place: something has been done the present year; a few barrels of flour have been sent from here, but this does not afford any just estimate for after years. The town of Sparta and some others about us are wheat growing towns, if we say nothing of those more distant.

The wool that was shipped this season, was valued at only thirty cents per pound, and yet it produced the sum of $28.720, at forty cents. it would have differed that sum about $ 10.000. The excess of wool is very great over last year: and if it shall become worth forty cents per pound in the market, it will then be a very profitable business to grow wool, and the amount would be greatly multiplied. The increase of manufacturing must have a good influence on this department of business and if the tariff should become what the manufacturing interests of the country demand, the growing of wool might occupy the foreground among the farmers of this state.

There is much which now finds a market, which were it not for the canal would remain almost worthless. The amount of all this is capital created.

When we trace the numerous canals and railroads in this state, the astonishing amount of business transacted in consequence of these improvements, and the steady increase of these business transactions, we feel a pride that the "EMPIRE STATE" is ours, nor have we much reason to complain of its administration.

The amount of property brought to this place must greatly exceed the amount shipped. The value of this amount of merchandise could not easily be obtained. Some principle articles which were taken from the col-

lectors report seem sufficient for our purpose. Mr. Taggart, the collector, has taken much pains to afford me all the information of which he was possessed on these subjects, from which the extracts are made.—Property left.—pig iron, 75,095 lbs.; iron ware, 194, 512 do.; salt, 10,372 bbls.; merchandise, 3,318,057 lbs.; gypsum, 228,500 do.; mineral coal, 68,480 do.; furniture, 46,032 do.; sundries, 107,421 do.

These items are but a part, but sufficient to show something of the consumption of the country.

It can hardly be said that families over trade in merchandise during the present times of embarrassment, but it is undoubtedly true, that many individuals deny themselves many things that would be for their comfort rather than incur an indebtedness. As our exports increase, our imports must also increase.

The saving to consumers on account of this water transportation must amount to a very large sum per annum; how much cannot be easily ascertained.

But the saving on some of these items can be computed with sufficient accuracy. There has been 10,372 barrels of salt brought and accounted for at this office for collections, the present year; on which those who deal the heaviest in that article, tell us, there is saved on each barrel, One Dollar, when compared with the former transportation by land.

This is a handsome sum saved from one article only; and when we take into account that salt is indispensable to every family; that it enters necessarily into almost all our food, the saving is as much to the poor as to the rich, which gives it a higher value. The sum of $10,372 is as really saved, as if that sum had been distributed among the indabitants of this and surround-

ing neighborhoods. Were this a luxury it might be dispensed with; or the rich might pay for it as a luxury, but the poorest family must have salt in about the same quantity yearly.

When double the present quantity is required, the saving will of course be double, and that period cannot be very distant. If the time should come that the saving in the price of salt alone should amount to all the interest on the cost of this canal, it would seem rational, that an opposer of this inland navigation should occasionally eat his meat without salting it for holding a sentiment so repugnant, and for arraying himself against the interests of the poor.

The saving on iron must also be great; an article indispensable to the business of the country. If we suppose but $5,000 saved in this important item, and that the increase of the demand shall equal that of the other indispensable articles brought to this place, a short period only can be necessary to save enough on salt and iron alone to pay the interest on the whole sum which this canal cost, saying nothing about tolls.

Taking this view of the subject, we perceive, that the country benefited by this branch canal had better pay the entire interest on the cost, by a direct tax, than to dispense with the canal itself. The profit arising in numerous ways from this little branch, small as it may be counted, will soon pay the entire expense of making it, and give a surplus to the state. This calculation of profits by what is saved to consumers, and the value which is added to real and other estate, gives so much more value to the state of New-York.

It would astonish a Newton, or a La Place, to count up the entire value which has been added to this state

by its internal improvements. If, for instance, the canal from Rochester to this place is worth one million of dollars, what is the Erie and all our other canals and railroads worth! If three terms could be found, so that the *answer* could be obtained by a simple operation in the rule of three, the result would undoubtedly astonish the world. We can only say in view of the supposed result, that the idea of such a sum as must be produced, is quite overwhelming.

We cannot contemplate such wonderful results without experiencing sublime sensations, nor without discovering something grand and lofty in human minds who project and accomplish such high achievements.

All these advantages attach us more closely to our soil, and make us more patriotic, as we have more to love, cherish and defend, by the sum of all these millions conferred upon us by our internal improvements.

There is no doubt but internal improvement may be and sometimes is carried to the extreme. Some of the states are experiencing the legitimate result of that error in legislation; yet this is no sufficient reason why internal improvement should not progress in a sound and discreet way. If the amount of business will be such that the avails of these works will overcome the interest in a reasonable time, or if the benefit of these improvements add greatly to the country through which they pass, and in which they terminate, the state has sufficient inducements to carry forward the first and the country with the assistance of the state, the latter. Those who have, and shall hereafter favor this liberal policy will be considered the benefactors of community.

Without intending to enter the political arena, it

may be asked, what would this state have been in comparison, without her internal improvements? To say nothing of N. York or Brooklyn.or Hudson, what would Albany, Troy, Utica, Rochester and Buffalo have been; leaving out all such important villages as are soon to become cities: what in one word would the country have been?—what number of millions will you subtract from the present value of this state, to degrade it to what it would have been; with a heart it is true, but its palpitations, how feeble, and dead, or nearly so at its extremities

If such a disgusting picture is in taste with any reader, let him in accordance with his sentiments, entreat for the return of an age of semi-barbarism, or the old and almost exploded systems which have offered few, real benefits to men. If any would like to return to that state peculiar to human society in its first and rudest state, the rocky mountains are ours; let him prepare his bow and arrow and climb their dizzy heights.

There is no intention to speak of this village in a way of boasting, or to undervalue any other place; but the impulse given by the canal was certainly very considerable. Previously this village did not extend west of main street any farther than the brow of that low hill, which separates the older part of this village from that part which has been more recently built on the flat toward the canal.

Mr John Haas has furnished me with the number of houses which have been built in this village within the last four years. Mr. Haas, is a principle builder himself; he took time to see each of these buildings and to know the time of their being built, and also made an estimate of the cost of each. His note, handed to

me makes the number about 450, saying nothing of barns and other out houses; he estimates the average cost at $ 550, each. These buildings he says, are some of them costly buildings, ranging from $ 5,000. downwards. But many of them are small, and he had rather be on the safe side by estimating them below, than above their cost. The known modesty and sound judgment of Mr. Haas is apparent in this estimate, and there is no one of his acquaintance that can believe that he has made an extravagant estimate.

Russel H. Winans estimates 450 buildings, average $ 550, each.

There are many who believe that these buildings cost much more than that average. On his estimation, the whole cost is $ 247,500.

When we remember that all these buildings have been made in these unpropitious times, it certainly speaks favorably of the increase of our village. It shows most conclusively some of the influence put forth by inland navigation.

If there were but one family in each of these new tenements, the population must have received a large accession.

If this increase of houses should continue for ten years to come it would add 4,500, to the present number.

That it will greatly increase there can be no doubt, and that it will increase as rapidly as it has within the last four years, cannot be doubted.

One considerable Cotten, or Woolen Factory would add a large amount of persons to the present population: a thousand are soon added where there is much done at manufacturing. It is presumed that the time

is not very distant when ONE THOUSAND individuals will be added in a year. Nor does it seem unreasonable to suppose, that this village will become a city of fifteen or twenty thousand inhabitants. The advantages for manufacturing; the extent of country centering upon this point, with other favoring circumstances argue in favor of such an amount of population.

This branch canal terminates near Judge Faulkner's Paper Factory, on his own premises, and adds much to the value of his lands. The Judge has incurred considerable expense for the accommodation of the public. An estimate of these expenses will be found as follows.

Store house on the canal and adjoining buildings, $2,100; coopers shop, $200; store house at the mill, $250; flouring mill, $13,500.

Buildings on premises which he has sold for building lots since the location of the canal. $20,000.

He supposes from a hasty estimate which he had made that the cost of buildings on the flat since the canal was located to be over $80,000.

The value of all the buildings and accommodations which have been made in consequence of the canal, and rise of land and other property is so much capital added to the place, of which the $247,500, is but a part.

It is among the benefits conferred by internal improvement, that it confers a new value upon lands.—This canal adds much value to some part of the lands owned by senator Faulkner, and upon those owned by some others.

If a less value is added to mine, I desire to be thankful that I am benefited at all, and most certainly if oth-

ers receive $1,000 benefit and I receive but $100, my one hundred is not the less valuable because my neighbor receives one thousand.

The following was handed me for publication, by Messrs. Conrad Welch, Frederick House and others.

"In order to accommodate the business of the village, the greater part of which is transacted on the main St., a distance of half a mile from the canal, the citizens of Dansville have constructed a *branch canal*, at an expense of about $6,000, commencing about 30 rods from Main St., and connecting with the main canal immediately above Lock No. 8. This canal is of the same dimensions as the Genesee Valley canal, and will prove of great advantage to the merchants and others doing business on Main Street."

There must be a very heavy amount of money invested in Basins, Warehouses. &c. in this state, and the increase of business promises to make many of them good investments. but they are investments susceptible of embarrassments of a serious nature.

There are building lots to be had in very advantageous places near the canal and at short distances from it, on favorable terms. Several new streets are filling rapidly.

The author is not informed who are the owers of many of these lots, or he would give their names — There is a respectable business doing in selling goods near the canal, but Main street is our chief business street in mercantile transactions.

On this I am informed there are 28 retail stores, and 20 shops. There are also 3 hotels, 1 Book Bindery, 2 printing offices and 15 offices of professional gentlemen, and the Bank of Dansville and Post Office.

The change which has taken place regarding the long credit system, which disposed of such immense quanti-

ites of goods to the great embarrassment of both the country and city, it is reasonable to suppose, has lessened the amount of sales in every place more or less. Yet the daily sales in this village are great for so small a place.

Our merchants are selling for ready cash, or its equivalent: the most that is done they say, is a cash business: but as some part of it is barter, an accurate estimate would be difficult. It seems safer to give the amount of goods purchased in the city. On comparing the estimates of sound and modest merchants, it cannot be less than $ 140 000 annually.

Adding such profits as merchants are supposed to make to this sum, and the daily sales will be higher than almost any one would at first believe.

It is astonishing, in these times to see this street literally blocked up with carriages, or sleighs, and the principal stores crowded most uncomfortably with waiting customers, who cannot yet be served. If the number of persons who come and go in a single day, was counted, the number would probably amount to more than any one is prepared to say: on some individual days, those who are here on business at these stores, throng the side walk, as if some public festival was being celebrated. The distance which some of them come to buy the necessaries which their families need, speaks well for the price of goods in our place. When you see persons here from Pennsylvania purchasing dry goods and groceries, and they tell you, they SAVE THIRTY PER CENT by the journey, it is not presuming to much if our merchants claim something for selling goods cheap. It is confidently believed that goods are selling in this village, as low, as they can be obtained

on Chatham Street. in the city of New-York, or any where else in these states.

The business transactions in lumber on the canal side of the village, especially, are heavy for such a place as this: the teams and number of people who are coming and returning, show the activity of business and the importance of the canal. Our hard-ware merchants are not out done by those who sell dry goods, but stoves and all other goods in their line are selling so low, that when compared with former prices, seem sufficient to convince any one, that the long credit system should be forever exploded. Paints and drugs, together with whatever is demanded are alike on the common level of prices, which affords a valuable comment on the ready pay system.

It was a wise saying of a great man, "buy only what you need, and pay for what you buy."

Some years since, said the Hon. Henry Clay, Mrs. Clay and myself agreed to never be indebted for any thing which we should buy, and for a term of years, he declared to the senate that they had not.

The founders in this village have done a respectable business. Mr. Commins has at his establishment, accommodated the public with steam engines for saw mills and such other steam aparatus, as has been demanded to a considerable amount. The mechanical business must amount to a large sum annually, but it would be very difficult to make an estimate.

The mechanics do not lose when compared with those in other neighboring places; some of them have accumulated very valuable amounts of property, and most of them, it is believed, are doing well.

In 1824, A. Bradley & Sons commenced manufac-

turing paper on their own premises which at present is an important establishment. They have on their premises 18 dwelling houses, 4 shops, 2 paper mills and a book bindery. Some of these are very good ones, built at a cost of $1,000, to $2,500, the others of a lower estimate.

Their mills are excellent, their machinery of the first class, and the entire arrangement business like. The amount of business at these two mills is estimated at $100,000 yearly. The cost of stock $35,000 and the cost of labor $20,000 annually. There is a large per centage of waste on rags, which must lessen the profits; it must however be a good business under the discreet management joined with the industrious habits of the present owners. The paper factory of Judge Faulkner is the oldest in the place. This mill has accomplished much business, and is doing from nine to ten thousand reams per annum, which is something less than is accomplished by one of the Messrs. Bradley's; but must be doing $33,000 yearly, the stock must cost $11,666, and the labor 6,666 dollars. Mr. Porter's is about the same as Judge Faulkner's, its business $33,000, cost of stock, $11,666, cost of labor, $6,666. To place all this in a clearer light, we set

A. Bradley & Sons paper business annually, at	$100,000
Judge Faulkner's at	33,333
Mr. Porter's at	33,333
Mr. Bradner's which will soon go into operation at	33,333
Making the entire paper business, annually.	$200,000
Cost of Stock, annually,	70,000
Cost of labor annually	40,000
	$110,000
The number of persons employed, allowing one person to each $1,000	200
Here is	$110,000

distributed among the poor and middling classes in this section of country.

This is a feature in the paper making business which should be remembered by all. A business which receives all its stock from these classes of people, and then employs 200, or more of these same classes of persons to manufacture this stock into paper. The $ 70,000 annually is the same as a gratuity, scattered over a wide region for the benefit of the poor. If a government should create a busines of $ 200 000 annually, and to commence their work of benevolence, should give $ 70 000 to the poor and middling classes annually, who would not admire such a government. But the government is only required to protect this business against a competition which exists to embarrass our manufacturers by refusing the operatives sufficient wages to keep them from starving.

We cannot name any one branch of business which is so decidedly merciful as the manufacturing of paper. Enter these mills and notice how neat and comfortable they appear: how cheerful and cleanly the laborers: how still and modest the several departments of labor progress.

Here you are not disgusted with a squalled wretchedness which is inseparable from an English Factory under their present abominable system, a system which cries to heaven for vengeance.

Here are no spay feet: no distorted, ruined creatures: no children melted at the worsted mills and thrown to the quick consumption by the hundred, da ly. How different is this business from the manufacturing of ardent spirits, which during a scarcity takes the bread from the hungry poor and converts it into that which destroys and damns community by the thousand.

The honest, industrious manufacturer of paper deserves to prosper, and it does seem that the business must be pleasing to Him, who regardeth the cry of the poor.

$ 200,000 in some places sustains a whole neighborhood, Mechanics, Physician and Clergyman; indeed, there are

many places which have much less capital. If this business should cease, the loss to the country would amount to the sum of the stock used in making paper in all these states, and many thousand would be destitute of the means to support themselves and families, the business which our own manufacturers of paper are doing so generously would be accomplished by foreign countries, by our bitter opponents, and these states sustain the loss of some millions every year. It seems impossible to take any view of this important branch of industry without seeing the necessity of that protection which shall enable our own manufacturers to keep the ascendancy in our markets. An opposite policy is ruinous, and so far as it has been pursued has ministered to the prostration of business and a general poverty, of which no one administration can have reason to be proud.

Our inland situation has excused us from the flouring business, yet something has been doing at the mills owned by Opp and McCartneys, and during the last year Judge Faulkner's new flouring mill has done a respectable business. Besides these, the grist mills of McWhorter and Porter are doing much. The following is from the report of the Engineer in 1833 who made a survey of a canal route to this place, as reported to the Legislature in 1835. "The paper mills employ about 84 persons, manufacturing about $80,000 worth of paper annually. The Clover mill has prepared for market 1,500 bushels of clover seed in one season. South of the village the land abounds with pine timber of a quality not inferior to any in this section of country; and within the circle of a few miles are 55 sawmills making large quantities of lumber. The soil in the vicinity of the village is alluvial flats, and superior bottom lands. The principal part of the valley as well as the uplands is fine quality wheat lands. Sparta in which the village is located, is the largest town in the county, &c."

Since the above date the lumbering business has increase-

ed greatly; steam mills have become numerous, and very heavy quantities of lumber are being prepared.

The advantages and facilities of this place for manufacturing are such that there seems no other way to account for its neglected water power, but to pass it to our former insulated situation.

There are places where there is more water power, but where else do so many advantages centre: where else are streams of the same quantity of water and having as much descent, on the common level of the lands on each side of them: where else can as many sites for factories be found where so little need be expended in obtaining their foundations: where else is there the same cubic feet of water per minute and yet subject to no injurious freshets: where else can all the materials for buildings be obtained in the immediate neighborhood and at so low a cost? Where else does nature and the advantages of the place, together with the wants of the surrounding country make the same demands with equal promise of profit. On an examination of the water power any one must perceive the inducement to manufacturers to be great. We take only the water within the range of the village. The Canaseraga Creek contains 3,271 cubic feet per minute; the Mill Creek 1,980; Little Mill Creek 990, and Stoney brook 1,000 cubic feet per minute.

We will use but two sites on the Canaseraga. On Mill Creek only ten. On little mill creek we will use but six. Throwing away Stoney brook and half our other water power.—taking the paper mills of A. Bradley & Sons as specimens of business, those on that stream will do the same amount of business.

2 Paper mills annually, - - -	$100,000
10 Factories on same stream, - - -	500,000
2 on the Canaseraga, 3,271 cubic feet per minute - - - - - - - -	165,000
6 Little mill Creek 990 cubic feet per minute	150,000
Factory and Mills already in operation -	80,000
	$995,000
Judge Faulkner's paper mill . - -	33,333
Mr Porter's do. - - - -	33,333
Mr. Bradner's do. - - - -	33,333
	$1,094,999

Making more than one million of business annually.

We have on this calculation, in business annually, the sum of $1,094,999. Cost of stock for paper, annually $70,000. Cost of labor, making paper, annnally, $40,000.—Cost of stock for the other factories allowing it to be fifty per cent on the entire product, about $450,000. Cost of labor, estimated asat paper mills $220,000.

There is no account made of eighty thousand dollars in the cost of its material.

We subtract the amount of business to $1,000,000 and allow twelve years to reach that sum, which does not seem to be an extravagant calculation.

When this estimate is realized, this place will contain fifteen or twenty thousand inhabitants, and rank among the third class cities of this state.

It is confidently believed that the surrounding country will urge this place onward until it becomes a city of at least that amount of population.

There could be one, or two hundred thousand dollars spared by capitalists in this village, for manufacturing purposes, with out any embarrassment to the present business, but we have not got the men who have been educated to the business of manufacturing. To make the business safe and profitable, the owners should understand every department of it and manage it themselves.

For the want, or in the absence of these establishments on an extensive scale we are losing the interest on a large amount of natural capital.

Suppose this capital to be $100,000, the simple interest would be $7,000 annually. But subject our water power to certain well known laws and the profits are commonly much higher; sometimes 25, or 30, which would yield 25,000 or 30,000 annually.

That capitalist who hoards up $25,000 and keeps it idle, wrongs the public out of the business which it might do, and

himself out of the interest which is $1,750 a year. Water power is capital, as really as the soil of our lands. Our lands are useless except they are used, and mines of the precious metals are valueless unless they are opened and the ore tested by well known rules. Were it known that considerable mines of, even Iron, or Lead, existed in this neighborhood, does any man believe that miners could not be obtained, to work them. But mines may deceive the most experienced and sagacious miners, while our waters roll on, undiminished and forever.

Here are no gulfs, or precipices to descend, where thousands must be expended in obtaining a precarious foundation for a factory building, which will probably be removed or injured by the approaching freshet. Here our streams are not subject to any injurious freshets. All these calculations, and suppositions will be more than realized when the factory bell shall call the appropriate number of men women and children to step lightly to the buzz of a million of spindles.

The location of this village is such, that strong inducements are offered to capitalists and to such as possess but moderate means: being at the head of navigation for an extensive and industrious region of country. Here must be the central business point, and here the purchases for the wants of business and families will be made. If in some sections there is not a surplus of wheat for the market, there is and will be that which is quite as necessary and profitable.

As an illustration of the foregoing, we publish the annual exhibit of the statistics of manufacturing at Lowell, from the New-York Tribune.

"We obtained last week at the east the annual exhibit of the condition of the manufactories at Lowell, embodying facts which we think will interest our readers.

There are eleven regular manufac'uring companies in Lowell, including the 'locks and canals,' or water privilege company, which was incorporated in 1792, but did not commence operations until 1822

which may be regarded as the year of the foundation of Lowell. Before that time, it was a rugged, rocky, barren spot, inhabited by two or three families of boatmen and fisherman, and not worth ten dollars per acre, including every thing upon it. The Merrimac company commenced business the next year, and no other until the Tariff of 1824 was passed. In 1825, the Hamilton company started; in 1828, the Appleton and Lowell; in 1830, the Middlesex; in 1832, the Suffolk and Tremont; in 1833, the Lawrence; in 1836, the Boott; and in 1840 the Massachusetts, being the last. These eleven companies employ an aggregate capital of $10,700,000, employing 6,295 females and 2,345 males. Beside these, there are in Lowell extensive Powder mills, a Flannel Mill, a Blanket Mill, Bolting Mill, Foundry, Paper mill, Bleachery, Cord and Whip factory, Planing machine, Reed machine, Grist and Saw mills, employing a capital of $500,000 and 500 workmen, making the whole manufacturing capital of Lowell $11,200,000, employing over 9,000, men and women.

The ten principal Manufactories already designated have 33 mills, beside print works, run 6,194 Looms and 261,075 Spindles producing 1,425,800 yards of cloth per week, or 74,141,600 within the year 1843. The Cotton fabricated by them during the year was 22,880,000 lbs. (A pound of cotton will average 3 1-5 yards of Cloth: 100 pounds of Cotton will make 89lbs of Cloth.) A loom will average on No. 14 yarn 44 yards of Cloth per day, on No. 30, 30 yards. Of printed Cloths, 273,000 yards per week, are made by the Merrimac and Hamilton Companies The Middlesex makes 9,000 yards of Cassimeres, 1,800 of Broadcloths per week, using 1,000,000 pounds of Wool and 3,000,000lbs. of Teasels per annum The Lowell makes 2,500 yards of Carpets, and 150 of Rugs per week, beside 85,000 of Cottons Flannels are made at the Hamilton, Sheetings and Shirting at nearly all, with Drillings. Printing Cloths, &c at several.

The average wages paid to the Females, young and old, experienced and inexperienced, is $1,75 per week beyond the cost of board; to Males, $4,20 per week, or about $18 per month beyond the cost of their board. The payments are all made in cash, amounting to $150,000 per month. We challenge the wide world to produce, out of the Manufacturing districts of our own country, a region where Female Labor is so bounteously employed and is paid on an average of $7,50 per month beyond the cost of board. And we challenge this or any country to produce a section in which women who work for their living are more intelligent, better educated, more truly virtuous, religious and independant than those employed in the Lowell Manufactories. There have been most shameful slanders circulated with regard to them which ought to be put down In the infancy of these establishments, some females of bad character obtained employment there, thro' deception; but these were speedily detected and expelled: and now if one of bad character is discovered there, she is required to leave directly, as the others will not endure the association of vice. No where is there a more correct and vigorous moral sentiment than among these industrious and independant women.

As to the alleged hardship of Factory labor, we have no doubt that its conditions might be improved. We believe the average hours of labor are 12½ per day, which is too much for an employment which is

pursued the year round. It does not allow time enough for reading, study, attending lectures, and other means of moral and intellectual improvement. But, on the other hand, it must be considered that the labor is very light; that many pursue it for hours together with an open book before them, reading half the time; and that *all* greatly prefer it to any other field of Industry. You can hardly induce an American girl at the Eastward to do housework except for her own family or for the sick; the large majority would prefer working in a factory for $1,50 per week, to doing housework for $2. And the establishment of Manufactories has, to our certain knowledge, *more than doubled the average recompense accorded to Female labor throughout the Manufacturing region*, while greatly reducing the price of almost every thing a woman buys. Beside this, the treatment of Females who do housework has greatly improved since the factories were started.—No woman of sense or spirit will now submit to the humiliations which were common here twenty years ago, (and which are common *here now*,) because she knows where she may at any time go to avoid them.

It is common enough for our Free Traders to talk flippantly of our Females engaged in factories as if they were of like character and condition with those of England. But this is very unlike the truth The American factory girl is generally the daughter of a farmer, has had a common school education at the district school, and has gone into the factory for a few seasons to acquire a little something for a start in life She spends some weeks or months of every year under her father's roof, and generally marries and settles in its vicinity. Many attend Lectures and evening schools after the day's work is over, and of the six thousand more than half regularly occupy and pay for seats in the numerous Churches of Lowell. Nowhere is the Sabbath better observed, or the proportion of habitual church goers greater than in that thriving city; hardly any where is Temperance more general or are violations of law less frequent. Six out of ten of the Females and full one half of the Males enjoy *better* health in the Mills than they did before coming there.

Six of these Mills are warmed by steam only two by hot air, and three by steam and hot air together. The annual consumption of Wood therein is 3,290 cords; of Anthracite Coal, 12,500 tons.; of Oil, 67,849 gallons. 600,000 bushels of Charcoal were used in 1843, and 4,000 barrels of Flour for *Starch* alone. The Locks and Canals Company use 1,225 tons of Iron per annum; will put up and finish a Factory of 5,000 spindles complete in four months, and employs, when building, 1,000 to 1,200 workmen.

Such are some of the statistics of the chief Manufacturing town in America. As a specimen of regulated, systemized, well directed Industry, it is worthy of study. Though doubtless far enough from perfection, whether as to efficiency or distribution of proceeds, we ask every friend of the Human Race to judge whether it is wise or humane to favor a policy which would diminish such towns as Lowell, and enlarge such as Manchester, Preston and Glasgow. This is a practical question.

And, while the laborers of England have, under all changes of policy, been yearly sinking into deeper and deeper abjectness and despair, owing to causes far beyond the reach of any policy we may pursue,

we rejoice in being able to state that the working Men and Women of Lowell have very large deposits in the Savings Bank of that place, and that *they are becoming large owners of Stock in the Corporations for which they work*—in one already to the extent of $100,000, in another to the amount of $60,000, &c., &c. Here is the germ of the true and genial Reform which we hope to see become universal, and which, when it shall have resulted in making the Workmen large and general owners of Stock in the establishments in which they are employed, sharing fairly in their profits, will put an effectual stop to the demagogue resort of exciting laborers against employers, to the ruin and injury of both.

The towns around us need no eulogium; their inhabitants pay their debts. Sparta, Groveland, Springwater, Cohocton, Howard, Dansville, Hornelsville, Almond, Burns, Ossian, with others, are increasing in soundness and in wealth; so also are those more distant.

The look of the country in all directions from this village, is somewhat mountainous; but such is the peculiarity of the opening into this valley, that a gradual decent favours all the approaches to this village, except that from the north. Such is its position in a commercial and manufacturing point of view, that competition within the range of its customers need not be anticipated. There are some places where both nature and Providence urge a compliance with their united designs: this appears to be one of these places, and their intentions must be accomplished.

There are in this village, one Lutheran Church, one German Reformed, two Presbyterian, the second of which has recently built them an excellent Meeting house; a very large Methodist Society, one of Episcopalians, and a Roman Catholic meeting some part of the time. There are a sufficient number of individual Baptists to form a church, which is likely to take place soon. It may be said of the Clergymen who have charge of these religious bodies, that they lose nothing

when compared with those of our neighboring villages.

Altho' the author is opposed to the practice which has sometimes obtained, of seeming to exhaust the professed piety of the place by excessive handling, and stuffing the book so full of the remarkable proceedings of the religious societies, as to ensure the book a market. even. in the absence of all merit yet, there were some things in the life of the late Mr. Hubbard, former-Pastor of the first Presbyterian Church in this village which deserves some notice. I say Mr. Hubbard. rather than ' the Reverend Mr. Hubbard," not from any disrespect, but from conscientious scruples.

The title, " Reverend," is never applied to any creature in the Scriptures; but is applied to God alone, as " Reverend and holy is his name " Should the word, Holy, be substituted for that of Reverend. and we should read in some publication, of the Holy Mr. ———the Holy Dr.———,&c., any one would at once perceive that the writer intended to convey a meaning directly opposite the word itself—that he intended to convey the idea of the want of holiness, or propriety of character. Hence the extreme impropriety of giving flattering titles which the inspired word disallows.

The following brief sketch is from the pen of Major Van Campen who knew Mr. Hubbard long and intimately.

" Robert Hubbard was persevering in his efforts to increase in piety, and knowledge of the word of God: he deserves to be remembered and imitated. In his intercourse with his fellow creatures he was always affable and obliging; noted for a deportment the result of enlarged and active benevolence. Exceedingly social in his feelings: polite and graceful in his manners.—

He consciously avoided an intimacy with those whose society neither promised, nor afforded opportunities of usefulness. With the saints, the excellent ones of the earth, was his delight. The more spiritual any one appeared to be the more did he seek and enjoy communion with them. . . It mattered not with him what was the condition or color, every one who showed the heart of a true diciple he recognized, as a brother, or sister.

"He rejoiced to be an instrument to minister to the edification and consolation of all those who loved the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. To this end he visited the sick and the afflicted; conversed, wrote letters, held meetings, &c. He was faithful in exhortation and prayer, and all the means he could use to build up the kingdom of Christ in the hearts of the saints. While he thus labored to promote a growth in grace in the Church, the burden of his prayer and labors were for the conversion of souls: he had consecrated himself to the service of the Lord, the glory of his name, and the advancement of his cause.

"Not only in his intercourse and correspondence with his fellow men did he endeavor to strengthen the interests of piety in those under his influence, but by all means possible did he labor to gain some from the ranks of the enemy.

"Actuated by this zeal for the divine glory and compassion for perishing souls he sought, and seized every opportunity to beseech men in Christ's stead to be reconciled to God. Thus he continued in the service of the Lord until his feeble body failed and he went peacefully to his rest."

This sketch is undoubtedly very modest, much might be said of that excellent man, who for piety and benevolence had few equals.

It would seem uncourteous to pass the Legal and Medical Professions in silence when so much is deservedly due the highly qualified and useful Gentlemen who fill them.

If we assign to the first an intimate acquaintance with the philosophy of truth and justice in connection with the safety of reputation and property together with the remedy which the sufferer may obtain where his rights are invaded: if we assign to the other, that deep and thorough knowledge which can only be obtained by an untiring studiousness of the organic and mental constitution of man, which qualifies to make the nice distinction, between a healthy and unhealthy action, with the remedies for restoring one or more of these organs, or faculties to their legitimate cours ·. we only assign them the deep research and morality of purpose which places them where they belong, on the great circle of the sciences.

If any gentleman of these professions fails of this lofty standard, it is owing to that awful depravity which has corrupted all hearts, and not to any impurities in the fountains from which all truth flows out in transparent streams.

Taking this view of these professions, we can but yield them the seats which the guardians of our rights and of our health should occupy.

The inhabitants of this village have heretofore been remiss in sustaining that higher class of schools which were imperiously demanded. The academy has sometimes received a degree of patronage, but the subject has not received all the attention which it deserved. The higher branches of English education, together with a thorough preparation to enter our Colleges should at all times be provided for in a place like this. These advantages may now be obtained in our village very cheaply.

The Academy promises much under the tuition and supervision of Mr. Hicks. We have also an excellent school for young ladies, taught by the highly qualified and accomplished Misses Talcot and Post, from New-York: none need go abroad for an education now, except such as enter our colleges.

We are encouraged to believe that the important subject is appreciated with increasing interest.

This state is only *outdone* in her admirable common school system, by some parts of Germany.

The Kingdom of Prussia has surrounded herself with a bright Halo of glory, by her liberal system of common education. In almost any part of Germany education is more easily obtained than else-where.

The justly celebrated Thulock, was initiated into the temple of science by this national charity.

It is singular that governments so very absolute, should be so very paternal to the humble poor, while those whose policy seems much more liberal should so criminally neglect their *peasantry*.

In these U. States, statesmen have ceased to amuse the public with speculations regarding the human mind, but are laboring to provide the means for its development. Elementary books have become abundant, and many of them are truly excellent. Our language is being developed and its strength tested by the great number of Grammars and Dictionaries of recent date. There have been more than 350 in our language, more than half of these are American. Whether this is complimentary, or whether this great number of American grammars is not the result of over-doing, so peculiar to us Yankees is scarcely questionable.

There is a spirit in us, *Americans*, which seems peculiar; if a new path is opened, or some ancient avenue enlarged, such numbers press into it, as to embarrass each other. This has been the fact, regarding our Spelling books and Grammars especially.

It is no longer a question whether the English Language is spoken more correctly here than in England, nor whether our pronouncing Dictionaries are inferior to theirs. There is something sublime in our anticipations of the high destiny of our Language, and of the Anglo Saxon race of men.

There is very much due to Dr. Johnson, that *Colossus of Literature*, for arranging and settling many im-

portant rules for the lasting benefit of our Mother tongue. It needed juster rules of interpretation and discipline. It was ambiguous to an alarming degree. It was rich but not sufficiently restrained. Much of its ambiguity must forever remain, but the different spelling of the same word has accomplished something. But as a dissertation on this subject is not called for, the subject is dismissed with many thanks to Mr. Webster and other accomplished American scholars who have contributed much to the language dear to us all.

Whether minerals abound in our hills has not been ascertained; but ALUM is believed to exist in large quantities near Mr. Porter's mills. Springs of water are strongly impregnated with it, and the ore is said to possess a very high per cent of pure alum. It is probable that it may become a profitable business — There are indications of minerals in our hills, and they probably exist, perhaps to a large extent, but we are yet to young for the discovery. Such mines as may hereafter employ many workmen, secrete their glittering ore with much propriety, as other departments of business are not yet filled up. In some new places, Galena, for instance, the Lead seems necessary, to balance the disadvantages of the place; but here it is otherwise. Nor is it very desirable that rich mines of silver or Gold, should be frequently discovered.— The Spanish nation and soil are both enduring a heavy curse, which their South American mines have ministered to them.

The Coal mines of England and of Pennsylvania are greater blessings than if they were Gold, or Silver, so far as national prosperity and morals are concerned. It was the abundance of these metals, easily obtained, which produced the idleness and effeminiacy of Spain, and corrupted the government and her people. It was this which despoiled her of her Chivalry, and which cast away the once glittering LANCE of Arragon and Castile.

The public square in this village has been greatly encroached upon and neglected. It is hoped it will be soon redeemed, fenced and laid out into walks and planted with trees and shrubbery; by what name it should be called is for our village to decide. Perhaps, "Rochester Square," or possibly, "Primitive Square," in honor of the first settlers who gave the ground.

Judge Faulkner will lay off a square near his basin, which will be suitably fenced, &c. which we will call, "Faulkner's Square."

The Messrs. Bradleys will lay off one in their section of the village. as soon as it shall be necessary, which we will call "Bradley's Square."

As the village increases there will probably be a public square near the north part of Main St. which will be called by the name of the donor.

Such squares are necessary to densly populated places, and add much to their beauty, health and convenience. It was this which influenced that great statesman, Wm. Penn, to so bequeath the public Squares to the corporation of Philadelphia, that if they were encroached upon, they should revert to his heirs. These squares add much to that elegant city; they are capacious and nnmerous, and so located as to favor every part of the city.

When all these squares shall be called for, and richly fenced and decorated, it will be a luxury to ramble along their gravel walks with some dear friend, inhaling a thousand sweets from the opening flowers, and admiring the rapid change of an inconsiderable village, to a smiling and delightful city.

The natural curiosities of this place are not numerous, nor very imposing. Yet nature has made some records of her proceedings around us. The hills of SAND on the south of the village are worth visiting. One of these stands out from the rest as if desirous of being inspected and admired. This Pyramid ascends on all sides at an equal angle to its top. There is that circular exactness around its base, and in its entire ascent, that it seems to have been adjusted

by higher rules than the *Lead* and *Line* alone are capable of enforcing. One would suppose that some accomplished Engineer had superintended the building to test the perfection of his mathematical instruments and his own skill.

On this sandy memorial of the ancient Flood, a flag should continually wave. This monument which was produced by the whirling waters under the guidance of the divine Architect, has endured the battling of the storms, for more than 4,000 years; during which period, the snows have marked its number of winters, while a mantle of green has numbered its springs. We cannot contemplate it, but as an ancient historic relic which speaks of the distant past, and which secretes within itself the Archives of 4,000 years. It looked abroad upon this valley before the red man's hasty step had brushed the dew, or the twanging bow string had launched an arrow for the Bison or the Deer.

As early, as 1797, the few inhabitants of this place were alarmed by a heavy, unusual sound, and trembling of the ground. The sound increased and became excedingly fearful, when looking in the direction of the apparent thundering a volume of water larger than a barrel issued from the side of the mountain east of the village. The force and velocity of this stream was such, that you would suppose some wonderful reservoir of water had been tapped sufficiently low to give it the advantage of all its pressure. Large trees were torn out by the roots and sent down the mountain as if discharged from some mighty engine. After some time the volume of the stream lessened, and consequently its velocity. From that time, a beautiful stream of clear, cold water has issued from the place and has served to suply a tannery many years.

This breaking forth of water from the hill the first settlers denominated the "Out break."

It was ascribed to various causes; some may yet remain doubtful regarding it. Mr. Hammond ascended the mountain, nearly half a mile above the "Out break," and found a Lake, or pond which appeared to have drawn off a considerable part of its water. He supposed that a channel was forced through from this pond & that the great pressure of the water was the occasion

of the "Out break." This opinion seems a rational one, and in agreement with the laws by which water is governed.

A little distance from the "Out break," there is a Cave in the side of the hill which has been called "the Devil's hole." Some singular things have been said regarding it which might be worth something to a Sir Walter Scott, if they had been related on the Highlands of Scotland. This cavern, it is said will only admit a man's body at the mouth. but after descending you come to a room of beautiful appearance, with an opening into another, more spacious and elegant, and another, &c. It is possible that these rooms are numerous and extend a great distance into the mountain, which if carefully and scientifically searched out might add a new wonder to the catalogue of Caves. Preparations are being made for a thorough investigation, when if it is found that extensive excavations exist, it can appear no more wonderful than that the attribute of Power, should have been exercised elsewhere, or in producing the Mammoth Cave in Kentucky.

There is a little west of us a Spring of superior water which comes out of a rock. 6 or 7 feet at its base, and one foot in diameter at the top, into which you can dip a cup, as at the rock spring at Saratoga.

It affords a generous stream of water. It is difficult to describe, but should be visited. It deserves a more accurate examination and description.

Patterson's falls, a little to the north-east of the village has become a place of resort; if there were suitable accommodations they would be visited much.

The stream of water is not large, but has not been desecrated by art. It is intended to have sufficient accommodations for company, which added to the scenery of the place, will make a favorite retreat.

There is a Medicinal Spring near this village on the premises of Judge McNair, of considerable importance. Its water has been found of great service in

curing diseases. This water has been analyzed by Professor Dewey of Williamstown College and found to contain the following ingredients.

"1835.

Dear Sir:

I have examined to considerable extent the mineral water which you sent me. One property of it is clear, its fetid odor. This is owing to sulphuretted hydrogen gas. It gives name to this class of mineral water, viz, the sulphuretted waters.

Whether they contain much of other ingredients depends upon circumstances; some do like those near the Congress Spring at Saratoga, and some do not.

I have tested this water with acetate of Lead, nitrate of silver, pure potash, and carbonate of potash, nitrate and muriate of barytes and pure barytes, oxate of ammonia, lime water and ammonia, Prussiate of Potash, Fecula and regitable blue. I evaporated a portion of it and got the solid salt in small quantity of solid earthy matter, slightly colored in spots with a yellowish substance which is oxide, or Carb. of iron; but the iron is in too small quantity to be detected till the water is evaporated, and then it is found insoluble so that it must be a minute quantity of Carbonate of iron dissolved by Carbonic acid.

There is contained in the water,

1. Sulphuretted hydrogen gas in considerable quantities, probably as much as at the Spring at Avon and other places.

2. Muriate of soda, (common salt) in small quantity.

3. Sulphate of lime, this makes the common hard water, and is in usual quantity here. It is salt possessing no medicinal properties.

4. Carbonate of iron in minute quantity, held in solution by Carbonic acid in the water.

5. Carbonic acid. This is shown by lime water and may be nearly as much as the volume of the water.

It is this which dissolves the Carbonate of iron,—

These ingredients did not render it probable that any Iodine is in it. I tested for it and saw no indication of its presence.

This water is like that of Aix La Chapell and Harrowgate. The water of the former has a temperature of 100 deg. or more, the latter, only that of the country 50 deg., or 60 deg. perhaps. Of the Harrowgate water it is said they are very offensive to the smell and taste; in small quantities, and as an alternative in large quantity purgative, and useful in scrofulus or cutaneous diseases, destroying worms and removing chronic obstructions and diseases of the stomach.

I cannot now turn to any book on this subject.

6. Carbonate of soda. This is in small quantity, but enough to be readily detected, rendering it probable there is little pure carbonic acid. When the water is evaporated, this alkali alone effects the blue *test*.

All the ingredients, except the sulphate of lime make this water valuable, and this one does no hurt."

This Spring is situated on rising land of a dry soil and easily approached. It is proposed to accommodate the public by erecting suitable buildings for boarding bathing, &c., the coming season, when it is presumed, the water will be found of much service to such as may be induced to use them.

The situation of the spring is so elevated that the water may be carried a great way in simple conductors if necessary, and used for showering at almost any elevation. They have proved efficacious in numerous instances, and undoubtedly this spring is one among the many fountains of mercy which our benevolent Creator has opened for the benefit of a diseased race.

We look upon our medicinal waters as so many expressions of the divine favor, and desire to be humbly grateful in our acknowledgements of so much undeserved compassion.

There are some other peculiarities which might be enumerated, but as they are not prominent in their

features the subject is dismissed with one remark — These Phenomina which are scattered abroad upon the earth are so many demonstrations of the existance of the great first cause, and of his unsearchable designs, as well as his supervision of the works of his hands. We see him every where in his works, but at these special places we are more especially called upon to reverence the Divinity.

These seem acts, or testimonials, by whose light we discover more of his eternal power and Godhead, than in contemplating things on an ordinary level. Some of these peculiarities, or curiosities are strong expressions of the attribute of Mercy, regarding the bodies of men, which taken in connection with a high and gracious economy, develope a rich benevolence in Him, whose we are, and whom we should reverence and obey.

If by the word, Scenery, we mean, the appearance of a place and what is about it, blending their influences, so as to enforce no ordinary claims upon persons of taste and refinement: if this is what we mean by the word, this village and vicinity yields to no inland place in our knowledge. The imposing grandeur of our high lands, whose sides during the season of verdure, appear like an almost measureless contiguity of curtains on lofty hangings, to shield us from the coming winds. In Autumn they are changed to a rainbow hue, as if all the dyes of Tyre, Persia and Egypt had been lavished to dress us out in purple of the richest party colour.

These colors are arranged in the happiest manner, to soften into loveliness with pleasing effect. When the leaves of our forests have fallen, their varied tints of the richest coloring, present to the eye, wherever the winds have clustered them, the appearance of blooming parterres of flowers, which tempt the admirer to lay himself down in the midst of such exquisite paintings and enjoy the enchantment undisturbed.

The claims of our rainbow colored foliage, tho' unrivalled in beauty, when connected with an autumnal sunset, exceeds all that is pretended to claim admira-

tion on the much lauded rose colored *Italian* skies.

What must be the surprise of a person who had been brought up among the fogs of London, or the smoke of Liverpool; especially, Birmingham, that *smokehouse* of the world, if set down on our hill side, amidst an ocean of flowers and then looking abroad upon our western sky of burnished gold and purple. Add to all this, the rich garniture of the entire heavens during an Autumnal sunset while thin pellucid clouds float over him in all the rich coloring of Him who made the Rainbow, and has opened every flower.

When he has become familiar with so much splendid beauty and loveliness, ask him for his English Heavens; ask him for the Sun, Moon and Stars of London, Liverpool and Birmingham, swathed in fog and smoke: constrained from day to day to put on sackcloth and wear the habiliments of mourning forever. Ask him to paint an English November upon the canvass with melancholy and suicide in the foreground.

Add to this delightful scenery, our extensive plains, dotted with cattle, and whitened with sheep, the cheerful whistle of our Farmers, as they, "drive their teams afield," mingling with a thousand mellow voices and the picture, together with the undefinable feelings of the foreigner needs no addition. * * * * * * We can but anticipate the time, when our Isles shall blush at their own ingratitude and our Continent heighten that blush to crimson, that so few and poor returns have been made to Him, who has placed us amidst so much pictured beauty and painted loveliness.

However imperfectly this Miniature may have been taken, it has cost the author much perplexity and toil. In writing on ordinary subjects the difficulties are less. Whatever have been the embarrassments, if not overcome, they remain for some abler pen. These sketches do not pretend to present a full length portrait, but only a Miniature imperfectly drawn. It does not claim to have been "taken to the life," and it is only hoped, when it is held up to the public view, that good judges,

who possess some little friendship for this village, and for the author, will say "it is a resemblance."

Finally, the author is well satisfied that it does not require any more talent to find fault with the book, than it did to write it; and as the Press is accessible, he gives his free and full consent, for such as are greatly displeased with this, to write one and have it STEREOTYPED.

THE END.

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